

**DECISION MEMORANDUM**  
**POLAND**  
**USE OF ISO METHOD 6579:2002 TO TEST FOR *SALMONELLA***

**Reviewers:**

Gerald Zirnstein, IES, Office of International Affairs

Faiz Agarib, IES, Office of International Affairs

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**EQUIVALENCE REQUEST:**

Poland has submitted a request for an equivalence determination for use of ISO method 6579:2002 for testing raw meat samples for *Salmonella*.

**BACKGROUND:**

The findings of routine audits indicated that Poland's official laboratories conducting microbiological testing for *Salmonella* were utilizing analysis methods which differed from those used by FSIS official laboratories. On October 8, 2009, Poland submitted an equivalence request for the use of ISO method 6579:2002 to test samples of raw meat products for *Salmonella*.

**FSIS FOOD SAFETY MEASURE:**

*Salmonella* samples must be analyzed using FSIS' analytical method or a method using performance criteria as set forth in PR/HACCP Final Rule, Appendix E, FSIS Sample Collection Guidelines and Procedures for Isolation and Identification of *Salmonella* from Raw Meat and Poultry Products.

**OBJECTIVE OF THE FOOD SAFETY MEASURE:**

The objective for using the required FSIS method of analysis is to ensure that a scientifically validated method of analysis is used to accurately detect the amount of *Salmonella* in the sample.

**EQUIVALENCE EVALUATION:**

**Criteria:**

The criteria used for determining whether an alternative testing method for raw meat samples is equivalent are as follows:

- The method is a scientifically validated method of analysis for *Salmonella* approved or adopted by an international organization.

The method has been scientifically validated and has been adopted by the ISO, an internationally recognized organization.


- The method ensures that the opportunity for detection and identification of *Salmonella* is equal to or greater than the current FSIS method.

The sample test portion (25 grams) ensures that the opportunity for detection of *Salmonella* is equal to or better than the FSIS method.

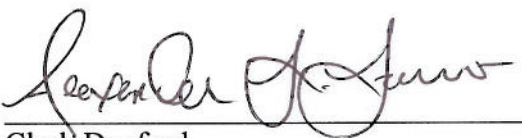
# **RECOMMENDATION:**

FSIS has determined that Poland's request for the use of ISO method 6579:2002 to test samples of raw meat products for *Salmonella* meets the established criteria. Therefore, Poland's equivalence request should be granted.

# **APPROVAL:**


  
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International Equivalence Staff  
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12.10.2009  
Date

*for*   
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# **CONCURRENCE/OIA:**

  
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